



Horouta Waitai, Waimaori, Waitapu

31 April 2015

Final Horouta Iwi Collective Report to the Ministry for the Environment

“The thinking that got us into this mess will not get us out of it” Albert Einstein.

This case study has been about Iwi expressing their thinking as a solution to improving the quality of our freshwater. It is the inclusion of Iwi and this Iwi thinking that will get us out of the mess that our freshwater is in. Each Iwi view is summarised below.

Te Whanau a Apanui

The key focus of Te Whanau a Apanui is on a Te Tiriti o Waitangi based relationship with the Crown – not Councils. In this context of Tino Rangatiratanga, Te Whanau a Apanui seeks a Rohe Protection Area (“RPA”), akin to a Marine Protection Area, which covers from the Raukumara range on land to the Raukumara range under the sea. The respective hapu will set their hapu limits on water quality, and they will be the decision maker for their respective rohe of the RPA. Under this model, all 3rd party commercial arrangements (on the sea) will be purchased out by the Crown.

Te Whanau a Apanui see this arrangement being confirmed by way of an agreement between Treaty Partners which is then crystallised in unique legislation to reflect their unique situation. This is not about delegating power, but affirming it. This is the Rights and Interests mechanism that Te Whanau a Apanui are seeking.

Ngāti Porou

Ngāti Porou are the overwhelming majority domiciled in their rohe and the primary leaders of the cultural, economic, environmental and social developments occurring within their rohe. The ability to understand the state and status of the WaiMaori/freshwater within the Ngāti Porou rohe is imperative to their growth and development, and the sustainability of the WaiMaori/ freshwater in their rohe.

Ngāti Porou identified that very little data and information exists in GDC on both the quality and quantity of the freshwater in the two main catchments (Waiapu and Uawa) and the smaller catchments and tributaries within their rohe.

The overwhelming call from ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou is for Te Runanganui o Ngāti Porou to enter into discussions and negotiations with the Gisborne District Council (GDC) to seek a section 36b JMA as the first step in enabling ngā hapū o Ngāti Porou to achieve the level and quality of planning and management oversight for the WaiMaori/freshwater in their rohe. Then to achieve section 33 by year 2020.

The ability to establish this baseline data is fundamental to Ngāti Porou ability to be a responsible JMA partner. The baseline data is also a critical starting point for their hapū to conduct their own rohe specific cultural audits, inventories and limits.

Ngāti Porou also has the objective of establishing Whānau and Hapū Governance and Management Freshwater Management Frameworks to enable Whānau and Hapū to build and grow governance, management capability and competency.

Turanga Iwi

“We need a whole new way of thinking...an indigenous way...and we have an opportunity to do that right now under the banner of "iwi rights and interests". I'm almost looking at the 'western world view' (aka NPS and NOF) and trying to think the complete opposite” Turanga Iwi Case Study Researcher

A detailed analysis was carried out by the GDC of the primary Turanga Iwi waterbodies – particularly the Waipaoa Catchment. This was outlined in the Turanga Iwi Milestone 2 report with a number of actions points for the GDC. Since the Turanga Iwi Milestone 2 report, the GDC has responded to the Turanga Iwi action points. This response from the GDC is noted in Schedule 1 to this report.

Turanga Iwi are of the view that the matters that the GDC see as being outside their freshwater management plan are Rights and Interests in fresh water that have to be worked through by Turanga Iwi with the Crown. These Rights and Interests include:

- a. Cultural limit setting. For example, can whanau harvest kai (tuna, kaimoana) that is safe to eat? This is the metrics more in line with an indigenous/Turanga Iwi worldview not, "Dissolved Oxygen Level = 0.8".
- b. Infrastructure and quality freshwater at zero cost to Marae and Papakaenga;
- c. Protection of mahinga kai including inanga and native species spawning areas through to the tuna in lakes like Repongaere;
- d. Water storage options: this is a critical issue due to Waipaoa over allocation;
- e. Options for the recharging of at risk aquifers particularly the Makauri aquifer;
- f. Developing a User Pays Regime as a part of water efficiency;
- g. Water metering in Gisborne City – as a part of water efficiency and reducing the GDC take from the head waters of the Te Arai river.
- h. Fencing cattle away from waterways to protect swimming areas;
- i. Restoration funding to restore significant areas and the relationship of whanau, hapu and Iwi with those areas including the flora and fauna;
- j. Iwi Allocation and a Rights based approach; and
- k. Iwi decision making in planning and consenting.



Willie Te Aho
Project Manager